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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/527,965	03/15/2005	Tae Jin Kim	KIMT3003/REF	8597
23364	7590	01/12/2006	EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			VOGELBACKER, MARK T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/527,965	KIM, TAE JIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark T. Vogelbacker	3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/15/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed on March 15, 2005 does not fully comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.98(b) because a copy of each foreign document is not provided within the application. Failure to comply with this notice will result in the above mentioned information disclosure statement being placed in the application file with the noncomplying information **not** being considered. See 37 CFR 1.97(i).

Specification

2. The use of the trademark "VELCRO™" has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strech, US-5,320,249 in view of Mikhail, US-2004/0169385 A1.

Strech discloses the invention as claimed, including a vertical ribbon (90) made of a flexible material (col 3, lns 17-18) and a pair of VELCRO™ coupling members (100). A central portion of the ribbon is fixed to the central part of the bottle (25) by a film (60). Both portions of the ribbon are bent in upward and downward directions to form a ribbon type handle when the bottle is used. However, Strech does not mention that the handle is made of synthetic resin material or that a trademark is on the handle. Mikhail teaches a handle for carrying bottles, wherein the ribbon is made of synthetic resin material (pg 3, [0037], lns 1-10) and advertisements are placed on the various surfaces of the handle (pg 3, [0042], lns 3-11). As to the material of the handle, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the handle of Strech to be made of synthetic resin material, as taught by Mikhail, to manufacture a handle that is strong enough to support the weight of a full bottle (pg 3, [0042], lns 6-11). As to the trademark, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the handle of Strech to include a trademark, as taught by Mikhail, to create a handle that is marketable to business owners.

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strech, US-5,320,249 in view of Mikhail, US-2004/0169385 A1 and further in view of Mazzarolo et al., US-6,250,545 B1.

As mentioned above, Strech and Mikhail disclose the invention as claimed, but do not mention that the coupling members are buttons. Mazzarolo teaches a handle for carrying bottles,

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including a male and female button as coupling members (col 2, lns 60-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the handle of Strech and Mikhail to include male and female buttons, as taught by Mazzarolo, to provide an alternative means to connect the ribbon.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Vogelbacker whose telephone number is (571) 272-1648. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JJ Swann
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600

MTV

Mark Vogelbacker
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 3677